

Range of Management Ideas Based on Public Input, Resources, and Current Management

Health of the Land and Fire					
Management Idea	Current Management	Range of Management Ideas			Other Ideas
Continue to Utilize Watershed-Based Planning Process	Use of watershed planning process to renew grazing permits and implement Standards and Guidelines.	Use existing watershed planning process to implement Standards and Guidelines and develop site-specific grazing prescriptions with adaptive management.	Integrate future watershed planning process with Coordinated Resource Management planning in concert with County Conservation Districts and NRCS.	Use watershed-based planning process but permittees develop specific grazing plans. BLM actions would be limited to fulfilling NEPA requirements and monitoring.	
Range Improvements		Keep reservoir development to less than 15 acre-feet and groundwater to less than 35 gpm.	Reservoir developments would not be any more frequent than one per square mile.	Remove existing water developments.	
Specific Livestock Management Guidelines Based on Resource Advisory Council (RAC) Recommendations	Use of general RAC guidelines modified to watershed-specific guidelines.	Continue to develop watershed-specific guidelines based on RAC recommended guidelines with public input.	Develop guidelines for the entire Monument based on RAC recommended guidelines.	Use general RAC guidelines.	
Monitoring of Riparian Areas, Soils, and Rangelands	Watershed monitoring/limited permittee monitoring.	Establish joint monitoring team to oversee monitoring of riparian areas, soils, and rangelands.	Develop a specific monitoring plan with timelines and corrective actions.	Continue to use monitoring plan in watershed plans but require all grazing permittees to complete monitoring.	
Recreation Activities Have Jeopardized Health of the Land at Some Locations	Recreation sites have various levels of use and facilities.	Established "hardened" sites, which would be managed intensively and regularly.	Overused sites would be closed as needed to allow for natural recovery.	Camping would be prohibited in riparian areas that are overused by people.	

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Weeds Are Serious Enough in Some Areas to Jeopardize Health of the Land (Causes Are Many)	Ongoing integrated pest management efforts to treat known areas, contain large infestations, and eradicate small infestations. Some cooperative efforts in place.	Expand cooperative agreements/partnerships across ownerships and agencies. “Weed free hay” policy would be enforced.	Eradicate Russian olive on public land in the riparian corridor of the river. Contain and eliminate Tamarisk.	Facilitate research into new treatment methods. Maximize use of biological control and reduce use of herbicides.	
Some Range Improvements May No Longer Be Necessary, Have Been Abandoned, or Are Inconsistent with Current Goals	Policies and guidelines have been established for livestock grazing and Standards for Rangeland Health.	Adjust fences to facilitate wildlife movement and fit with the landscape where practical; consider electric fences for some locations. Develop crossing structures for fences.	Revise policy for water facilities to minimize surface disturbance, provide needed livestock distribution, and protect or augment wildlife habitat.	Establish policy for development of new reservoirs.	
Vegetation/Community Diversity and Mosaic to Restore Native Vegetation	<p>Terms and conditions have been incorporated into grazing permits to insure meeting Standards for Rangeland Health.</p> <p>Existing policy of full and immediate suppression of wild land fire except for Special Management Areas with existing fire suppression guidance (WSAs).</p> <p>Prescribed (management-ignited) fire allowed (JVP and WSA guidance).</p>	<p>Use fire as a management tool. Define areas where wild land fires would have appropriate suppression.</p> <p>Base prescribed fire and appropriate suppression use on vegetation management goals and fire regime.</p> <p>Disturbed areas would be rehabilitated with native and non-native species to minimize erosion and provide forage for livestock and wildlife.</p>	<p>Prescription burning would be pursued in areas to meet specific land/vegetation objectives</p> <p>“Grass bank” and “common reserve” grazing allotments would be established as practical to be used in exchange-of-use situations (including prescribed fire).</p> <p>Manage for mix of seral stages.</p>	<p>Livestock prescriptions would be used to modify vegetation communities.</p> <p>Minimal impact harvesting of wood products may be pursued in areas where forest/ woodland health is in jeopardy.</p> <p>Non-native vegetation communities would be restored to native communities.</p>	

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Riparian Community Health	Terms and conditions and guidelines for livestock grazing have been established to meet minimum health requirements.	Install off-river watering facilities.	Construct riparian enclosures.	Plant riparian species and/or trees where suitable habitat and conditions exist.	
Water		Restore instream flows. Purchase water rights from willing sellers.	Develop plan for reserve water rights on Arrow Creek and Judith River.		
Quality of Life Locally and in the Public Interest	Valid existing rights and uses (grazing permits, gas leases, access, etc.).	Established community advisory boards.	Accommodate access for individuals with disabilities beyond minimum requirements. Accommodate access for the elderly.	Develop community outreach concerning public land decision-making process as well as interpretation and education.	
Fire Management Strategies Based on Vegetative Conditions, Fire Regime and Values to be Protected	All wild land fires are aggressively suppressed unless fire fighter or public safety is jeopardized. Fire size is kept to a minimum (except for WSA fire management policy). Wild land fire is not being managed to achieve resource benefits. Limited prescribed fire is implemented according to existing land use and resource management plans.	All public lands within the Monument boundary would be classified as Category A (river corridor and developed recreation areas), Category B (all other public lands except WSAs), and Category C (WSAs). (Most fires would be put out.)	Vegetation condition class, fire occurrence and fire regime would be used to determine proper mix of fire suppression tactics and prescribed fire treatments to achieve a desired vegetation/ wildlife matrix. This approach would include Categories A, B, and C. Fire management would incorporate mechanical treatment prior to the use of prescribed fire in areas where existing vegetative conditions do not allow the safe, effective use of prescribed fire alone.	Fire management strategies would incorporate Category D (fire use) within the WSAs. Under certain fuel and weather conditions, fire (either natural or prescribed) may be seen as desirable and used to achieve resource objectives. Areas adjacent to developed recreation sites, significant cultural sites, gas wells, etc. may be managed under Category C to reduce the risk of damage to these resources by catastrophic wild land fire.	

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Prescribed Fire to Benefit Wildlife	Use fire and other fuels management methods to reduce hazardous fuels while meeting other resource objectives (e.g., restore degraded fish and wildlife habitat).	Designate wildlife areas that have been degraded and can be improved with the use of prescribed fire.	Protect critical wildlife habitat from all wildfire and prescribed fire.		
Prairie Dog Towns	Management varies by area (West HiLine and Judith-Valley-Phillips RMPs). Closed to shooting March 1 to May 31 on public land.	Prairie dog towns would be allowed to expand without impediment even if Standards of Rangeland Health are not being met.	Prairie dog towns would be allowed to expand only to the point they are not affecting Standards of Rangeland Health.	Prairie dog towns would be managed to a specific acreage and control actions would occur if the acreage is exceeded by greater than 10%.	
Wildlife in Riparian Areas	Grazing management guidelines in watershed plans and allotment management plans.	Limit number of recreation users in campgrounds.	Fence or protect areas from livestock grazing. Develop water for livestock in the uplands to reduce the impacts of grazing in riparian areas.	Create artificial habitat such as nest boxes or nesting structures.	
Sage Grouse Habitat	Livestock grazing methods (which may include the termination of grazing by October 31) would be used to maintain sagebrush stands with 15-50% canopy cover and 15" in height within 2 miles of sage grouse leks.	Grazing would not be allowed within 2 miles of sage grouse leks from March 1 to June 15 (nesting period).	Grazing would not be allowed in sage grouse winter areas during periods of heavy snow accumulation.	Develop off-site water for livestock and protect or create small wet meadows as brood habitat.	
Wildlife Studies and Monitoring to Determine Habitat Condition/ Adaptive Management	Monitoring of biotic resource components using both temporary and permanent studies.	Studies conducted by contractors.	Studies conducted by BLM specialists.	Studies conducted in collaboration with BLM specialists and contractors.	